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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/746,365	12/21/2000	Jerry B. Decime	10002106-1	2157

7590 08/12/2005  
HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY  
Intellectual Property Administration  
P.O. Box 272400  
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EXAMINER	
EL HADY, NABIL M	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2152	

DATE MAILED: 08/12/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 09/746,365	<b>Applicant(s)</b> DECIME, JERRY B.	
	<b>Examiner</b> Nabil M. El-Hady	<b>Art Unit</b> 2152	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 May 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 10-14, 16-18 and 20-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 10-14, 16-18, and 20-25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                        | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)    | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____  |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

*AD*

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1. Claims 1-25 are pending in this application. Claims 9, 15, and 19 are cancelled. Claims 1-8, 10-14, 16-18, and 20-25 are presented for examination.

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. Claim 1-8, 10-14, 16-18, and 20-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as failing to set forth the subject matter which applicant(s) regard as their invention. Evidence that claims fail(s) to correspond in scope with that which applicant(s) regard as the invention can be found in the reply filed 5/23/2005. In that paper, applicant has stated "applicant's methods and apparatuses infer the language of received email messages from the language in which the web-sites that received the email messages are written", and this statement indicates that the invention is different from what is defined in the claim(s) because all the claims cite only a web-site which does require to infer or determine its language. A web-site usually is written with a specific language, and emails written from the web-site are written using the same language. It is obvious that if a customer writes an email with a language different from the web-site language, it will be appended with a meta-tag that refer to the web-site language "a wrong one".

4. Claims 1, 5, 6, 11, 12, 16, 17, 20, 21-25, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Novell's Breakthrough Language Identifier, Newsbytes, August 1997, hereafter "Newsbytes" / or Support your e-commerce with an e-center, World Trade v13n7, pp 66-68, July 2000, hereinafter "WorldTrade" or Talisma Enterprise's Multiple language Capabilities Enable Companies to Build Strong Global Customer Relationship, PR Newswire, August 2000, hereinafter "Newswire" in view of @Once Service Center, Platform to handle

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Internet Customer Service, Business Wire, November 1999, hereinafter "BusinessWire" or Mowbray (EP 1024447A2).

5. Mowbray (EP 1024447A2) is cited by the examiner in a previous office action.

6. As to claim 1, Newsbytes/ or WorldTrade/ or Newswire disclose the invention substantially as claimed including an e-mail sorting and routing system for e-mail messages generated through a web-site operated by a host organization, the system comprising: at least one web server for providing a web-site at which clients generate e-mail messages to the host organization; and at least one response server for sorting said e-mail messages by language (see articles in Newsbytes, WorldTrade, and Newswire articles).

7. Newsbytes/ or WorldTrade/ or Newswire disclose sorting the e-mail messages on the basis of language to be routed to appropriate agents for a fast processing, but do not sort the e-mail messages by topic. BusinessWire or Mowbray (abstract), on the other hand, sort e-mail messages by topic to be routed to appropriate agents for fast processing too. It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Newsbytes/ WorldTrade/ Newswire and BusinessWire / Mowbray. Sorting e-mail messages by topic, is well known in the art in order to route messages to skilled agents in certain topics for faster and efficient response. It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention that routing messages by topics would enhance the response efficiency specifically in companies that do business in more than one language when the e-mail messages for a certain topic are coming to the agent with the one language than is known by that agent. For that reason, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the

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invention to sort the messages first by language then by topic in order to insure faster and efficient processing and responding to the e-mail messages.

8. As to claims 5, 11, 16, and 20, it is inherent in Newsbytes/ WorldTrade/ Newswire disclosure that a plurality of language-specific mail boxes are used into which said e-mail messages are sorted according to language.

9. As to claims 6, 12, 17, and 21, it is inherent in BusinessWire / Mowbray disclosure that a plurality of topic-specific mail boxes into which said e-mail messages are sorted according to topic. However, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention that combining the teachings of Newsbytes/ WorldTrade/ Newswire and BusinessWire / Mowbray would result in each language-specific mail box being associated with a separate corresponding set of topic-specific mail boxes in order to insure faster and efficient processing and responding to the e-mail messages.

10. As to claims 22-25, Newsbytes / WorldTrade / Newswire, and BusinessWire / Mowbray do not necessarily disclose dedicating a web site in a particular language or sorting in different servers. However, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention that these arrangements are a matter of design choice and would not affect the basic sorting concept, specifically when these arrangements are included in software that may be integrated or divided according to design choice.

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11. Claims 2-4, 7, 8, 10, 13, 14, and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Newsbytes/ WorldTrade/ Newswire in view of BusinessWire / Mowbray and further in view of Ayyadurai (US 6,718,367).

12. Ayyadurai (US 6,718,367) is cited by the examiner in a previous office action.

13. As to claim 2, Newsbytes discloses appending meta-tags to each e-mail message, said meta-tags identifying a language of that message, and sorting said e-mail messages using said meta-tags (TEXT, 4<sup>th</sup> parag.). Although BusinessWire does not explicitly disclose the same, i.e. appending meta-tags to each e-mail message identifying a topic of that message, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention that the same concept in Newsbyte may be used to identify topic. Ayyadurai, on the other hand, discloses tagging e-mail messages with general property category and sub-property (col. 4, lines 12-18) for the purpose or classifying and routing the messages. It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Newsbytes, BusinessWire, and Ayyadurai in order to automate the sorting and classifying process based on language and topic.

14. As to claims 3, 4 and 10, Ayyadurai discloses a global mail box to which all messages generated at said web-site or web-sites are sent for sorting (col. 1, lines 64-65), said global mail box operates according to Post Office Protocol 3 (col. 4, lines 27-33).

15. As to claims 7 and 13, Newsbytes, BusinessWire, and Ayyadurai disclose a plurality of agent user interfaces, each of which is associated with a specific mail box (e.g. topic), wherein a qualified user (language and topic in the combined teachings) uses one of said interfaces to

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access messages in the associated topic-specific mail box (e.g. Ayyadurai, col. 2, lines 1-3, articles by Newsbytes and BusinessWire).

16. As to claim 8, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claims 1 and 2 above.

17. As to claim 14, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claims 1, 2, and 8 above.

18. As to claim 18, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claims 1, 8, and 14 above, In addition, a computer-readable instructions recorded in a medium for storing computer-readable instructions, said instructions causing a computer system to sort and route e-mail messages generated through a web-site or web-sites operated by a host organization at which clients generate e-mail messages to the host organization, the instructions causing said computer system to: sort said e-mail messages by language, and subsequently, sort said e-mail messages by topic is inherent in Newsbytes/ WorldTrade/ Newswire and BusinessWire / Mowbray disclosures.

19. Applicant's arguments filed 5/23/2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

20. In the remarks, applicants argued in substance that (1), applicant's methods and apparatuses infer the language of received email messages from the language in which the web-sites that received the email messages are written according to the amended claims.

21. Examiner respectfully traverses applicants' remarks.

22. As to point (1), In response to applicant's argument that the references fail to show certain features of applicant's invention, it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies (i.e., applicant's methods and apparatuses infer the language of received email messages from the language in which the web-sites that received the email messages are written) are not recited in the rejected claim(s). Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993).

23. The claims cite only a web-site the is used to write emails from within, such web-site normally does not require to infer or determine its language. A web-site usually is written with a specific language, and emails written from the web-site are written using the same language. For the sake of argument, It is obvious that if a customer writes an email with a language different from the web-site language, it will be appended as claimed here with a meta-tag that refer to the web-site language, i.e. "a wrong one".

24. Appending an email with meta-tag as above is not new in the art, a meta-tag is appended for sorting purposes, and may relate to any category including language, topic, length, etc.

25. Examiner maintains the same structure of the last rejection with the obviousness that a web-site usually is written with a specific language, and emails written from the web-site are written using the same language.



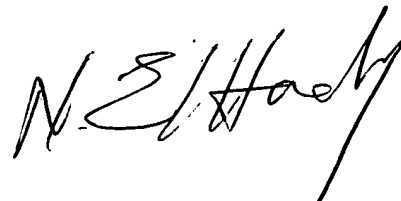
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26. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nabil M El-Hady whose telephone number is (571) 272-3963. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 - 4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Follansbee can be reached on (571) 272-3964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

February 21, 2005

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. El-Hady', with a long, sweeping flourish extending from the bottom right.

Nabil El-Hady, Ph.D, M.B.A.  
Primary Patent Examiner  
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